

YMCA PARENT AND SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

The VOS-YMCA is committed to providing a positive and respectful environment for all participants, including players, parents, spectators, coaches, and officials. By adhering to the following Code of Conduct, we can ensure that our sports programs remain safe, fun, and inclusive for everyone involved. YMCA staff or officials may remove any individual/s who violate this Code of Conduct Policy.

1. Be Responsible And A Positive Role Model

- I will demonstrate the YMCA's core values at all times - **Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility.**
- I will ensure my child arrives on time for practices and games with the appropriate gear.
- I will encourage healthy habits before, during, and after practices and game competition.
- I will refrain from negative, disruptive, or aggressive behavior.
- I will assume responsibility for the behavior of myself, friends and family members in attendance at my child's game.
- I understand that weapons, smoking, tobacco, alcohol, and any illegal drugs are strictly prohibited on all YMCA property.
- I will treat all players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect, regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.

2. Focus On Fun, Not Just Winning

- I will support my child by attending games, applauding effort, and cheering positively.
- I will prioritize my child's enjoyment, participation, and skill development over the scoreboard.
- I will celebrate good plays from both teams.
- I will avoid foul language, bullying, or over-involvement during games.
 - If I become too emotionally invested, I will take a moment to refocus on the fun and learning aspects.
- I will help my child build confidence by recognizing their effort and improvement, not just results.
- I will find and celebrate at least one positive takeaway, after each practice or competition.

3. Respect Coaches, Referees, And Officials

- I understand that coaches are **VOLUNTEERS**, and I will express appreciation for their time and commitment.
- I will not argue, criticize, or confront officials, coaches, or YMCA staff - Especially during games.
- **I will NEVER cross the court or field to engage coaches, officials or YMCA staff during, between or after play.**
- I understand that argumentative or disrespectful behavior may lead to my removal from the venue.

4. Support Emotional Well-Being & Stay Involved

- I will place my child's emotional and physical well-being above my personal desire to win.
- I will encourage growth by offering support - not pressure - and avoiding post-game critiques.
- I will allow my child to initiate conversations about their performance and experiences.
- I will remember that **youth sports are for children - not adults** - and will always act in their best interest.

5. League Conduct and Enforcement Guidelines

- **Authority Of Sports Directors And Officials**
 - Sports Directors and officials have full authority over all games.
 - Either may eject any spectator or individual within the venue for:
 - Indecent Language/Unsportsmanlike Conduct/Violations of League Rules
 - YMCA staff will enforce all rules for coaches, players, and spectators.
 - **Failure to leave the gymnasium within 1 minute of being ejected will result in a team forfeit.**
- **Behavior Expectations**
 - All adults and children are expected to treat one another with respect and kindness.
 - Behaviors such as bullying, name-calling, teasing, or other unsportsmanlike conduct will receive:
 - One warning - With possible removal from the court/gymnasium after the first warning
 - Sports Directors will determine the severity of any misconduct that may include:
 - End a participants season early/Ban an adult from attending further practices or games
- **Ejections And Suspensions**
 - A coach or spectator ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct must **immediately leave the facility.**
 - A player ejected may stay if not disruptive or be asked to leave if their presence distracts or disrupts gameplay.
 - **No warning from the YMCA staff is required before an ejection or forfeiture is enforced.**
 - Overt unsportsmanlike behavior may result in:
 - Immediate game ejection/Game forfeiture/Suspension for one or more games
- **Severe Violations**
 - **Crossing the court, touching a YMCA staff member, official, coach or participant or any serious breach of conduct will result in an automatic ban from the YMCA sports league – venue and property.**
 - **The YMCA reserves the right to modify rules when necessary. All decisions made by the VOS-YMCA are final.**

6. ENFORCEMENT

- The VOS-YMCA reserves the right to take appropriate action for any Code of Conduct violations, including warnings, suspensions, and or ultimate removal from the sports league. By following the YMCA Sports Department Code of Conduct, I agree to abide and uphold a positive, respectful, and enjoyable environment where all youth participants can thrive and grow.